

# City of Stockton Fire Department

Fire Chief Change of Command  
and  
Badge Pinning Ceremony



Friday, January 10, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Stockton Memorial Civic Auditorium



## **Richard J. Edwards**

Richard J. Edwards was selected as the 18<sup>th</sup> City of Stockton Fire Chief in December of 2019. Chief Edwards began his fire service career as a Volunteer Firefighter in 1995 with the Diamond Springs/ El Dorado Fire Protection District. He became a professional firefighter with the Georgetown Fire District in 1998, and later worked for the City of Folsom as a Firefighter Paramedic before leaving for the City of Stockton in 2000.

Edwards worked as a Firefighter Paramedic and Engineer at Company 9 for eight years and was reassigned to Company 2 when he promoted to Fire Captain in 2008. In 2014, Edwards promoted to Battalion Chief and was assigned to Battalion 2, responsible for the seven fire companies north of the Calaveras River. In 2017, Edwards was appointed to the Fire Prevention Bureau as the City's Fire Marshal. Edwards was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief in 2019.

Chief Edwards holds an Associate's degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor's degree in Emergency Management. He is currently enrolled in a Master's program, studying Organizational Leadership and Public Administration. Chief Edwards holds certification as a Chief Fire Officer, Fire Instructor, Paramedic, and an Emergency Management Specialist.

Chief Edwards will oversee the Stockton Fire Department's \$57 million budget and 217 employees from Operations, Administration, Fire Prevention, Emergency Communications, and Training. The Stockton Fire Department operates 15 fire companies from 12 stations. In addition to fire suppression and emergency medical services, the department also has an Urban Search and Rescue Team, Swift Water and Dive Rescue Team, Hazardous Materials Team, and Tactical Paramedics. The department also assists our mutual aid partners, deploying apparatus and personnel to significant fires all across the state.

Chief Edwards has been married to his best friend, Jennifer, for 16 years. Together they have four children. He is proud to lead an outstanding fire department and looks forward to the opportunities to develop new relationships with internal and external stakeholders across the region. Chief Edwards is committed to providing the best services to the community while ensuring his personnel has the tools and training necessary for long, healthy careers.

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## **Welcome & Introductions**

*Division Chief Ken Johnson*

## **Opening Benediction**

*Fire Chaplain Mark Butler*

## **Presentation of the Colors**

*Stockton Fire Honor Guard*

## **National Anthem**

*Julie Lorch*

*Janice Machado*

## **Ceremonial Remarks**

*Interim City Manager Laurie Montes*

## **Passing of the Trumpet**

*Interim Fire Chief David L. Rudat*

## **Pinning Ceremony, Promotion to Fire Captain**

*Bob Newman*

*Jeff Young*

*Xavier Ricci*

*Ryan Smart*

*Guillermo Reyes*

## **Comments from President of Local 456**

*Firefighter Engineer Mario Gardea*

## **Closing**

*Division Chief Ken Johnson*

# **Stockton Fire Department Chief Officers**

## Deputy Fire Chief

Brad Palmer

## Division Chiefs

Ken Johnson

Shannon Lewis

Rick Stubstad

## Battalion Chiefs

Brandon Doolan

Mark Duerr

Lane Healy

James Klein

Matt Knierim

John Titus



Please join us for refreshments following the ceremony.